CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the substitute amendment to Calendar No. 202, H.R. 927, an act to seek international sanctions against the Castro government.

Bob Dole, Jesse Helms, Bob Smith, Bill Frist, John Ashcroft, Jim Inhofe, Paul D. Coverdell, Spencer Abraham, Larry E. Craig, Trent Lott, Rod Grams, Frank H. Murkowski, Fred Thompson, Mike DeWine, Hank Brown, Chuck Grassley.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I will just say a word and then turn it over to the distinguished Senator of the committee, Senator Helms. Senator Pell is here, Senator Dodd is here, and they will continue the debate.

I want to say just as I leave—not leave, but leave the floor, that is, not leave the Senate—I am not certain what the administration policy is toward Cuba. President Clinton says he wants to tighten the embargo on Castro's Cuba, and then the White House issues veto threats on the legislation which toughens sanctions. President Clinton says he wants to increase pressure on Castro, and then he cuts a secret deal with him and changes the U.S. embargo and allows more money to flow to Castro.

But whatever the administration's policy is, the Senate will have a chance to speak on this legislation. We will have to speak for the Cuban people who have been muzzled so long by Castro's tyranny.

The choice in this legislation is simple: Do you want to increase pressure on the last dictatorship in the hemisphere, or let Castro off the hook.

Many in the United States actually want to end the embargo, and in the coming debate, they will argue about property rights, legal interpretations, free trade, about many things. But let there be no mistake, passing this bill is about supporting democratic change in Cuba and sending Fidel Castro the way of all other dictators of Latin America.

Let me also indicate that they have had a very good debate on the House floor on this similar bill, the Burton bill, the Burton-Torricelli bill on the House side. Sixty-seven Democrats had strong bipartisan support on the measure. It passed with strong bipartisan support. I know we have bipartisan support here. I hope we will have enough support that we can obtain the 60 votes on cloture, pass this bill, go on to conference and send it to the President. I also hope that we do not grant a visa, of course, to Castro to visit the United Nations any time in the future. I assume that may be in the works.

This is an important bill, an important debate. It is about the last dictator in this hemisphere. I hope that we will tighten sanctions, which is precisely what the bill sponsored by Senator Helms, myself, and others does. There are a number of cosponsors, as the Record will reflect, Republicans and Democrats alike, cosponsoring this bill

I yield the floor.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I indicate to my colleagues that there will be no more votes today. There is an agreement that there will be no amendments offered today. There will be lengthy discussions on both sides, as I understand it. So there will not be any votes. I give my colleagues advance notice of that.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may be recognized for 1 minute as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MISS AMERICA SHAWNTEL SMITH'S POSITION ON SCHOOL-TO-WORK

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, we were very proud to present to all of America today Miss America, Shawntel Smith. She has requested that I submit her statement, which she made today on the lawn of the Capitol, for the RECORD.

I ask unanimous consent at this time to have printed in the RECORD the statement by the new Miss America, and former Miss Oklahoma, Shawntel Smith.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SCHOOL-TO-WORK: REINVENTING AMERICA'S WORK FORCE

(Platform Statement of Shawntel Smith, Miss America 1996)

As global communications and technological propel us toward the 21st century, we Americans are falling further and further behind. Everyday, millions of men and women wake up and go to work in jobs that fall short of their American dream, while in some places as many as 50% of our high school students simply drop out. Because many American workers and students are neither motivated nor clear about their economic future, they flounder.

As a nation, our competitive positions remains stagnant. Lagging productivity growth rates, rising unemployment and the absence of a skilled work force widen the gap between America and its competitors. American business and industry struggle to fill

the jobs that exist because candidates lack the skills and education to make the grade.

America's classrooms and America's workplace today are out of sync. We're simply not preparing our nation's youth for the high skill, high wage jobs of a technology-based economy, and for that we all suffer. Students who cannot find the relevance in what they're learning, adults who cannot replace lost jobs, educators who cannot motivate their students, and employers who cannot compete.

As Miss America and as a student, I advocate school-to-work solutions that prepare today's students for tomorrow's workplace, providing them with appropriate and clearly marked paths from school to work or to continuing education. In doing so, I will encourage partnerships among the educators, employers, employee groups, students, parents, government and community leaders that spawn local school-to-work initiatives. Such initiatives not only offer "first chance" opportunities to students entering the work force but "second chance" opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed as well.

My very first priority will be to generate awareness for the school-to-work philosophy, reaching out to those who deserve its benefits but as yet are unaware of its existence. As I travel this country, I will seek out effective partnerships between educators, employers and students, sharing their stories with those who care to hear. I will speak with a sense of urgency because, in this case, there is no time to spare.

Among educators, I will encourage them to provide high-standards academic and relevant education that prepares all students for college, vocational or technical training, career education or immediate entry into the work force. I will ask them to take responsibility for ensuring that America's students be ready to succeed in a high-technology workplace.

Among employers, I will urge them to ensure the future competitiveness of America by taking an active role in the development of educational curricula and by providing work-based learning opportunities for all students. I will also ask them to examine the investments they make in human capital and to provide job training and retraining to all levels within the workplace.

Among students, I will motivate them to discover their personal paths from the classroom to the workplace, showing them that the American Dream is still attainable. I will challenge them to stay in school, so they can take from the education process what they'll need to succeed in the world of work, and I will help them understand that the process of lifelong learning is the key to their productivity and happiness.

From America's classrooms to its tool rooms to its board rooms, I will serve as a catalyst for change by shining the Miss America spotlight on and bringing a forceful voice to this new movement, a movement which seeks to put all Americans to work and makes our country strong and competitive once more.

These pledges I make today, the 11th day of October, 1995.

CUBAN LIBERTY AND DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY [LIBERTAD] ACT OF 1995

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, some of us have been waiting quite a while for the pending legislation, known generally as the Helms-Burton bill. But as the distinguished majority leader has